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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TC 1700

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In re Application of:) Confirmation No.: 1733
Giorgio Agostini, et al.) Docket No.: DN2001136
For: MASTERBATCH OF) Art Unit: 1733
FUNCTIONALIZED CARBON BLACK) Examiner: Katarzyna I. Wyrozebski
AND ELASTOMER(S) AND ARTICLES)
WITH COMPONENT(S) THEREOF,)
INCLUDING TIRES)
Serial No.: 09/897,316)
Filed: July 2, 2001)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 10th day of December, 2003.



Stacy J. Sidle

Main Stop Non-fee Amendment
Commissioner of Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Official Action dated September 5, 2003, no paper number given, please make the following amendments in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the Applicants' invention.